

## 56th Battalion Has New 'Theme'

Trainees of the 56th Battalion, commanded by Capt. H. W. Angell, were welcomed with a brand new theme song when they attended their orientation program at the Post theater last Sunday morning. Written to the tune of "We're Shoving Right Off Again," the lyric was sung by members of the unit, accompanied by the Camp Abbot band.

Here are the words:

Bet you don't know where we're from,

We're tough Engineers, from the 56th We Come.

Ready to fight for our rights, We're sweating to train, so strength we can attain.

We work and we play, all commands we obey, When we go forth to meet the foe.

They'll know we're Engineers because we'll blow:

Hell out of their shore positions,

We'll accomplish all our missions,

The 56th is on the go.

According to officers and cadre of the unit, trainees already have boasted they intend to make the 56th one of the "singin'est" battalions of the post.

## Notes From the Bull Pen

By Sgt. Curt Foreman

Maybe you think soldiers are good at insulting each other. But try listening to the wimmin, sometime. The dear creatures are extremely sharp at times... like for instance down to the Service club that night. But maybe the best place to begin is at the beginning.

The more or less insignificant situation to which we refer, and which, in some circles, is known as the eternal triangle, concerns a handsome, broad-shouldered MP with a line this long, an attractive blonde who is employed on the post, and a stunning brunette—a Bend girl—who might be loosely described as a character. Both girls are in dead earnest about the guy, and although sheer discretion has prevented the revelation of his genuine attitude, a capable analyst would arrive at the amazingly abrupt conclusion that his plans, if any, are of a strictly temporary nature... what with the war and everything. And for a time, by exercising rare foresight, he had avoided that dreaded moment when his two friends would meet.

But, as it must come to all men in these circumstances, this moment came to him. The brunette, in quest of her handsome MP, found him at the Service Club—with the blonde. It was a crucial test of the man's ingenuity but he met it with matchless technique. Almost imperceptibly the girls found themselves maneuvered into polite conversation over a coke. The blonde, however, enjoyed the advantage of being the actual date of the evening. This provided her with an excellent opportunity to do a little taunting, consequently the verbal darts were flying thick and fast.

About at this juncture, the blonde, thoroughly enjoying it all, snuggled near the guy and announced to the other girl: "You know, when the war is over we're going to be married and settle down on a little chicken ranch in California."

The brunette shifted her gum. Looking straight into the eyes of the happy blonde, she said smoothly, "Chicken ranch, eh? Really, dear, you'd be more at

## Survey Squad Completes Job Of Interviewing GI's Here

An Army Services Forces survey team, composed of three officers and 12 enlisted men concluded their assignment of interviewing all assigned enlisted men, and members of the Wac, here Wednesday.

The purpose of the survey, which is being conducted throughout the country is to fit men to the proper job to the best utilization of manpower that is possible. The survey is being conducted in co-operation with the War Manpower Commission.

Officers in charge of the unit visiting Camp Abbot were Lt. H. O. Adams, Lt. A. N. Rude and Lt. M. Tinsley. The group was under direction of Lt. Adams.

The enlisted men were drawn from various classification sections throughout the Ninth Service Command.

Although reticent as to results of the survey here, Lt. Adams indicated that but a small percentage of men seem to be misplaced on this post.

The survey, which must be completed before December 31, will include various return engagements by interviewing teams, and, following completion of this particular job, a permanent committee will be organized to make periodical surveys of the camps throughout the NSC to interview all ground forces and command units.

home in a kennel!"

OVERHEARD: Chow hound? Why, the guy eats like he was mad at his stomach!

It has often been said that brand new soldiers make the best sentinels. That saying was substantiated to some minor degree this week when a hurry-up call came into MP headquarters. Seems that a trainee guard on post at the Wac area had yelled long enough and loud enough for the Corporal of the Guard to be heard nearly a half mile away. And some passer-by merely dropped into the MP office to report it.

Two men were immediately dispatched to the scene, and upon arrival were somewhat astonished to see a dozen or more assorted soldiers lined up before the guard. These men had returned their Wac friends after the theater and such, but when they attempted to set foot on the Wac area they were stopped cold.

"My orders are to allow no males in this area after 11

o'clock," the serious-faced youth announced. "and I'm not aiming to do it!"

The situation was soon cleared, however, when it was explained that the boys are accustomed to escorting their friends to the very door of the orderly room, no less. But at that, the guard was not easily sold. But eventually, he resumed walking his post in a military manner. More power to him.

## Films of Engineers Aboard To Be Shown in U.S. Camps

Films showing the activities of U. S. Army Engineers in Great Britain are now being made in the European Theatre of Operations and will be released to army camps throughout the United States soon, the War Department has announced.

Entitled "Paving the Way to Victory," the film depicts the construction of giant airdromes now being rushed to completion by Engineers in Great Britain. Photography is being handled by signal photo company cameramen.

## WAC NOTES

By Sgt. Florence Bretinger and Pfc. Pat Rice

### Keeper of the Flame or How to Miss Bed-Check and Get Away With It.

This begins a series of some-embarrassing but all disgruntling duties of the Army Women. To a girl just out of college, or a woman out of a home, many of these jobs are quite new—with no training for many strange methods of attack are adopted. The following is not at all unique:

Suzy ran down the steps and out into the black night. She beat her fists on her chest, took three deep breaths, and promptly collapsed.

Oh well, she thought, straightening her face after tonight I'll be a much better woman. This is what has made the American women famous in history—endurance and devotion to duty.

Suzy, houlders straight and head high, marched over to the coal pile. It was all slag. So Suzy turned and walked the 50 yards to the second coal pile near the mess hall where she knew there was always lump coal. She went very quietly, because she had heard the cooks didn't like people taking their cherished lump coal. But the cooks were out, being popular girls, so Suzy filled her two buckets and staggered back to furnace No. 1 and No. 2.

Suzy was happy for a little while until some unco-operating WAC in the next barracks yelled that her pipes were cold. It was then that Suzy learned she had two more furnaces to stoke. In fact there were six to keep flaming.

Every 20 minutes Suzy walked to the coal pile, filled her two buckets, and walked to each furnace alternately. This became routine finally. Suzy knew then

that she had conquered this first obstacle. Everything was going well.

Then suddenly the worst of things happened—a fire went out. Like the torch of knowledge must be kept burning, so too must each fire in each furnace in each of the WAC buildings.

So Suzy started to work on the fire. She dumped a little slag over the smoke. She saw it wasn't going to burn so she stuck her quizzical head in the furnace door to see where all this yellow smoke came from. Suddenly she knew. Suzy was very surprised when the thick iron door came off in her hands letting out the yellow smoke that burst into roaring flames. She was surprised when she found she had no hair, no eyebrows or eyelashes—not even teeth. Poor Suzy! No corn on the cob for her.

Suzy felt considerably depleted but she kept on all through the night, a real soldier. Her faithfulness is an example to all WACs—also the stunned look on Suzy's face when she crawled in the barracks at 5:00 a.m. and gave herself gladly to her maker.

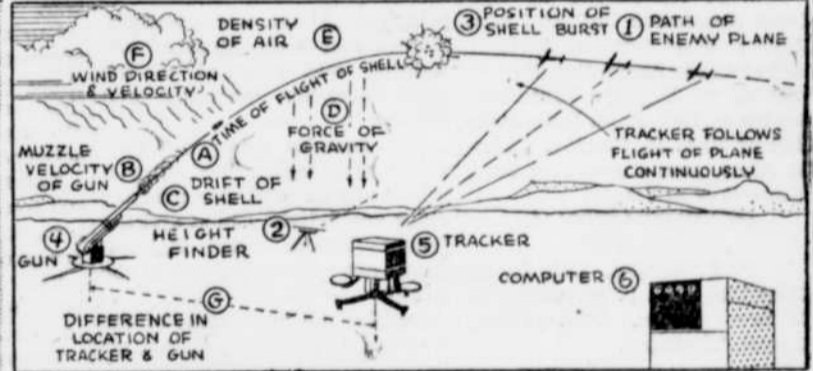
Yes, this is the way, the only, only way a WAC can miss bed-check and still go free, provided she lives.

## ASTP Trainees Will Sport Distinctive Shoulder Patch

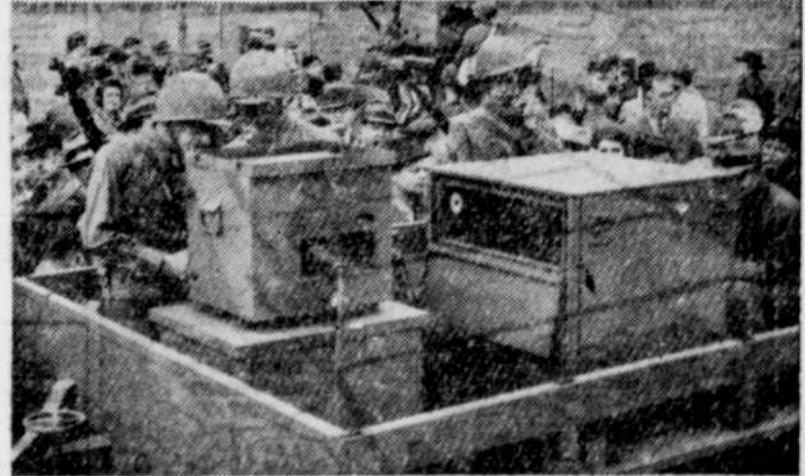
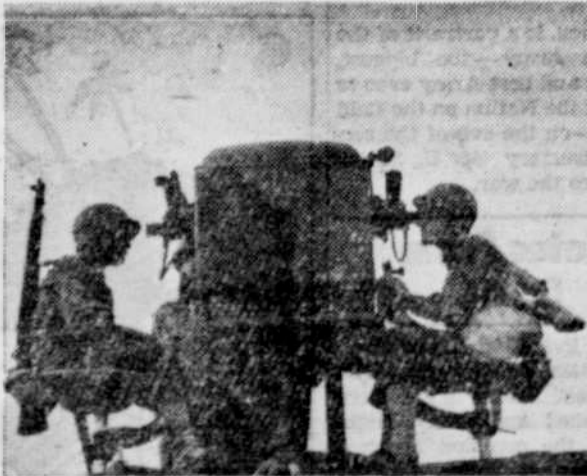
A special shoulder-patch insignie has been designed for the more than 100,000 soldiers participating in the Army Specialized Training Program at 209 colleges and universities in the United States, the War Department announced this week.

The insignie, selected from several patterns by soldier-trainees, will depict the sword of valor against a lamp of knowledge. The sword and lamp are in dark blue on a yellow, octagon-shaped patch.

## Electric Gun Pointer Makes Dead Ducks of Enemy Planes



**Electric Gun Pointer** keeps 'em falling. At left below is the tracker equipment which follows moving aircraft. Below is the computer, which does the high speed arithmetic. Left above is the gun which brings down the enemy planes. Twelve Jap bombers were shot down with only 88 shells by means of this pointer.



**ELECTRICITY** wins wars. In the picture at lower left corner above skilled soldiers operate the precision tracker which sights moving aircraft. Speed and direction of the flying plane are transmitted electrically to the truck-mounted computer shown in the lower right hand picture. This computer also considers height of the plane, wind direction and velocity, tempera-

ture of the explosive charge and the gun itself, muzzle velocity and drift (muzzle spin) of shell and the difference in position between the tracker and the gun. All these elements are translated into electrical impulses and the computer figures out just how to point the gun in nothing flat. Diagram at upper right explains the operation. The tracker (5) supplies the

speed and direction of plane (1) to computer (6). Computer also figures in altitude from height finder (2), distance between gun and tracker (G), time of flight of shell (A), muzzle velocity of gun (B), drift (C), gravity (D), air density (E), and wind direction and velocity (F). After considering all elements the computer sets the shell fuse and points the gun (4) so the shell

will explode within lethal distance (3) of the moving plane. It all used to be done mechanically and with highly complicated mathematical tables. The Army and Bell Telephone Laboratories recently revealed the new pointer at Murray Hill, N. J.